



PATENT
Attorney Docket No. 101.0056-03000
Customer No. 22882
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
Gary K. Michelson, M.D.)
Serial No.: 09/618,566)
Filed: July 17, 2000)
For: ANTERIOR CERVICAL PLATING)
SYSTEM, INSTRUMENTATION, AND)
METHOD OF INSTALLATION)

Group Art Unit: 3731

Examiner: D. Reip

TC 3700 MAIL ROOM

SEP 24 2001

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Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

REPLY TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

In a restriction requirement dated May 18, 2001, the Examiner indicated that the application contains claims directed to patentably distinct species of the cervical plate of the claimed invention. In reply to the restriction requirement under 35 U.S.C. § 121, applicant provisionally elects to prosecute Species 6: Figure 47, plate character reference number 600 as identified by the Examiner in the Office Action. Applicant submits that claims 200-290 are directed to elected Species 6.

To the extent any extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 is required to obtain entry of this response, such extension is hereby respectfully requested. If there are any fees due under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17 which are not enclosed herewith, including